

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

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> SHEILA KUEHL Third District

> > DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

SHERYL L. SPILLER Director

PHIL ANSELL Chief Deputy

August 5, 2015

TO:

Each Supervisor

FROM:

Sheryl L.'Spiller, Director

SUBJECT:

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS RIDLEY-THOMAS AND KNABE AND AMENDMENT BY MAYOR ANTONOVICH AND SUPERVISORS SOLIS AND KUEHL ON PREVENTING CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING AT HOTELS/MOTELS RECEIVING COUNTY VOUCHERS (MARCH 3, 2015,

AGN NO. S-1)

This is to provide the Board with the quarterly status report on the Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS) progress with the plan outlined in our April 3, 2015 memo. Consistent with the Board's motion, the plan included steps towards the prevention of child sex trafficking at hotels/motels that participate in the General Relief (GR) Emergency Housing Program via County vouchers.

The attached DPSS Preventing Child Sex Trafficking at Hotel/Motel Initiatives Report provides the progress achieved on the following six initiatives identified in the Board Motion:

- 1. In collaboration with County Counsel, amend the existing "Acknowledgement of the Receipt of Rules for Emergency Housing Facilities" agreement with the hotel/motels owners, to include the four new requirements as specified in in the March 3 Board Motion, and execute the amended agreement within 60 days with all currently-participating hotels/motels that agree to do so.
- 2. Work with the Probation Department to help design awareness posters to display at hotels/motels, and develop child sex trafficking prevention training curriculum to be provided to hotels/motels, including the identification of the associated cost.
- 3. Work with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles Police Department and other law enforcement agencies to ensure the timely reporting of child sex trafficking incidents in these facilities, as well as law enforcement access to the guest registries.

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- 4. Enhance the DPSS monitoring process to ensure hotels/motels are complying with both the existing and new program requirements.
- 5. Conduct a market analysis which will take into account total GR housing needs and availability of hotels/motels and shelters within specific geographic areas. The market analysis will help determine if an across-the-board rate increase is required or whether a rate increase is warranted in specific geographic areas.
- 6. Work with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to explore the feasibility of expanding shelter capacity for homeless GR applicants to reduce the Department's reliance on motels/hotels.

We will continue with the Department's proposed plan, unless otherwise directed by the Board. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (562) 908-8383, or your staff may contact Jose R. Perez, Assistant Director, at (562) 908-8633, or via email at ioseperez@dpss.lacounty.gov.

SLS:LD:mk

Attachment

c: Interim Chief Executive Officer Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors Interim County Counsel